

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                              |   |                  |             |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------|
| In re Patent Application of: | ) | Group Art Unit:  | 1793        |
|                              | ) |                  |             |
| Ralph Peter Hackl            | ) | Examiner:        | FIORITO, J. |
|                              | ) |                  |             |
| Application No. 10/713,640   | ) | Confirmation No. | 1650        |
|                              | ) |                  |             |
| Filed: November 13, 2003     | ) |                  |             |
|                              | ) |                  |             |
| Atty. Docket No.: 4764-32    | ) |                  |             |
|                              | ) |                  |             |
| For: "METHOD FOR THIOSULFATE | ) |                  |             |
| LEACHING OF PRECIOUS METAL-  | ) |                  |             |
| CONTAINING MATERIALS"        | ) |                  |             |
|                              | ) |                  |             |
|                              | ) |                  |             |

Filed Electronically

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit this Amendment and Response to address the Office Action having a mailing date of December 31, 2007. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are shown in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.